

FREE**ORANGE****SERVING THE TRIANGLE**

COMMUNITY SPORTS NEWS

BASKETBALL ★ CYCLING ★ RUNNING ★ OUTDOORS**April 2024
Volume 41
#663**

Off The Dribble

ACC Hoops In Review

The Good, The Bad, The Meh

Chip Bremer

What looked like a typical men's basketball season for the ACC early on actually turned into a somewhat interesting journey resulting in a few crash-and-burns, a few utter disappointments and some amazing runs that are quite rare in today's college sports arena. To put it all in perspective, here's a brief run-down of how the 2023-24 season went down:

The Good

In a year when most ACC teams suffered because of their strength of schedule, the Clemson Tigers took advantage of some early wins against ranked SEC teams Alabama and South Carolina and a signature win in Chapel Hill to boost their profile for an at-large NCAA

ACC HOOPS, Continued on page 10

Neighborhood Streets For Greenway Route

Planning for Morgan Creek Greenway East from Merritt's Pasture to Manning Drive in Chapel Hill continues. The route would connect the southern portion of the town to the UNC campus for bikers, walkers.

The favored route (1.39m, \$2.2M estimated cost) follows neighborhood streets after proposals to follow the creek or put a paved

sidepath along 15-501 were ruled out.

Conservation easements on properties along the creek won't allow anything to be built there and the cost/difficulties of building something along a busy state highway ruled them out, planners told the Chapel Hill Parks, Greenways advisory board last month. The sidepath estimate was \$6M+ (2 years to build) assuming DOT would approve it. Can you imagine Bypass traffic if one lane of 15-501 heading east was shut down during construction?

Community engagement with property owners, neighbors, potential trail users were held when there were three routes under consideration (Jan 2024). Further sessions are planned regarding the new plan. A pilot project was mentioned to illustrate how it would look.

The town is using \$500,000 in ARPA funds to design the project and likely will seek a state trails grant to build it. There isn't any city money now for construction or matching funds for the grant. *J.B.*

Triangle Festivals

April

- 19, Arbor Day/Earth Day, music, games, crafts, food trucks, Dix Park, Raleigh, 5-8, movie at 9.
- 20, 16th Kids Seedling Giveaway, Carrboro FM, 8:30 a.m.
- 20, Forest Festival, 9-2, downtown Wake Forest.
- 20, Children's Day Festival, Downtown Cary Park, 11-5.

FESTIVALS, Continued on page 6

PUBLIC GOLF UPDATE

Green Fees Raised Nearly Everywhere

Everything costs more in the Triangle including public golf, and green fees were hiked substantially nearly across the board and these aren't nickel dime increases. In past years, price increases normally were limited to a dollar or two weekdays or maybe \$5 for weekends. No more. Price increases this year were often higher.

Duke, UNC, Lonnie Poole, Heritage Golf all are now around or over \$100 weekends, and many others are over \$70 for Saturday/Sunday/holidays. Getting in a round of golf during the week is now a way to save big bucks over playing on weekends. Duke raised cart fees to \$35 per player. Most courses in-

GREEN FEES, Continued on page 5

Penny For Parks Funds 9 Projects

Chapel Hill allocated a Penny for Parks in the 23-24 city budget in order to catch up on small recreation capital improvement and

maintenance projects after several years of declining support. The idea was initiated by former mayor Pam Hemminger and is widely used in other communities to guarantee minimal rec funding.

Chapel Hill has dedicated about \$843,000 of the full \$971,000 PFP budget amount for

PARKS, Continued on page 10

Summer Soccer Shines In Carolina

International pro soccer matches dot the summer calendar.

July 10, Copa America Semi Final, teams TBD, Bank of America Stadium, Charlotte.

July 13, Copa America Third Place Game, BOA, Charlotte.

July 23, FC Series, Manchester City v. Celtic, Kenan Stadium, Chapel Hill.

Aug. 6, Soccer Champions Tour, Real Madrid v. Chelsea, BOA, Charlotte.

In addition, Manchester United plays Liverpool FC Aug. 3 at Williams-Brice Stadium, Columbia, S.C.

Spring Cycling Coming May 15

The next issue of CSN (May 15) will highlight Spring Cycling with results, summer rides and updates, plus a host of results for local road races, triathlons, leagues. Deadline is May 8. Contact joelcsn1@gmail.com about advertising.

Be sure to sign up for CSN's monthly newsletter.

Coastal Travelog Heads To Ocracoke Second of Two Parts

Robbie Breitweiser

The first week of 2024 brought mild and pleasant weather to the North Carolina coast, but it didn't last long. On Jan. 9, severe thunderstorms hammered the middle third of our shoreline from Onslow up to Dare County or so, and travel conditions were intermittently dicey in the subsequent weeks and months. Sections of Highway 12 on the Outer Banks are still experiencing flooding and overwash, and ferry service frequently canceled. Forecasters are predicting we'll have a rough hurricane season this year.

Everything worked out well for the New Year's trip to Lake Mattamuskeet that I wrote about in the March issue of Community Sports News, but later attempts at beach camping have been challenging. Heavy rain, high winds,

flooding, thick fog, and even tornadoes were in the mix. I was able to make overnight trips to Shackleford Banks in February and March, as well as to Little Tybee Island in Georgia, but my real objective was Portsmouth Island, at the northern end of the Core Banks, and so far my best efforts to get there have been thwarted.

Unless you own a boat, the only real way to get to Portsmouth is by going to Ocracoke Island and paying someone to ferry you south across the inlet, and even those folks who might be willing to make the trip in the off-season won't do it if high winds and rough seas promise to make an ordeal of the five-mile run.

TRAVELOG, Continued on page 9

Silver Lake Harbor at night.

PHOTO BY ROBBIE BREITWEISER

April Standings

Triangle Dart League

Boogie Flights 11-1 158-82 0.658, Darty Old Men 10-2 156-84 0.650, Subway 7-5 118-122 0.492, MRDMCR 4-8 103-137 0.429, One For Fun 2-10 96-144 0.400, We Need 'em All 2-10 89-151 0.371.

Orange Co. Sportsplex Men Basketball

Bull City Bullies 5-1, Triad Elite 4-2, Mud Dogs 4-2, Uncle Drew Allstars 4-2, Randy's Home Improvement 4-2, Undrafted Free Agents 2-4, Hillsborough Hobos 1-5, Jumpstart 0-6.

OCASL Soccer

Over 30—Mountain Goat FC 4-0 12, Tugboat Dept 3-0-1 9, The Federal 2-1-1 7, Chapel Hill United 1-1-2 4, Durham FC 1-0-3 3, Still Limpin 0-0-4 0.

Over 40—Boot Room FC 4-1-0 13, Beercelomona 4-0-0 12, Austin Villa 4-0-1 12, Oldcastle United 3-0-2 9, Stroke City 2-1-1 7, Bocca Senior 2-0-3 6, Wrexhamstring 2-0-3 6, Union FC 1-0-5 3, Artritico Madrid 0-0-6 0.

Kaminsky—Tar Devils SC 3-0-1 9, Classic Football Society 2-0-0 6, Pickup FC 2-0-0 6, Chapel Hill FC 2-0-0 6, Baby Ballers 1-0-2 3, Head Game Strong 1-0-3 3, Peaky Blinders 1-0-2 3, Cedar Falls FC 1-0-3 3, Sporting Rose 1-0-2 3.

O'Hara Rec 3—Hilary Chi 3-0-0 9, Black Sabbath 2-0-1 6, Aztecs FC 2-0-1 6, Hot Pants FC 1-0-2 3, Skormor Rangers 1-0-2 3, Back That Up 0-0-3 0.

Final Standings

Orange Co. Co-Rec Volleyball

Paislinators 16-4, Nash St. Tavern 16-4, Error 404; name not found 15-5, Bumpin' Ugliers 15-5, Wooden Nickels 8-12, Setting Ducks 5-15, Hillsborough Hitters 3-17, Der Nachbar 2-18.

Orange Co. Winter Men's Basketball

Mud Dogs 6-2, Hello 6-2, King Ballers 4-4, Eagles 0-8.

NC Road Races

April 20

Fostering Footsteps for Bright Futures 5K/10K, Scott North Wake Campus, Cary, 9 a.m., runsignup.com.

Earth Day 5K, Asheville, 10 a.m., race roster.com. *Live & Virtual.*

Walk/Run (4m)/Bike for Umstead, Raleigh, 9:45 a.m., umsteadcoalition.org.

6th Haliwa-Saponi 5K, Hollister, 8am, runsignup.com.

OWLS Fort Macon trail 5K, Atlantic Beach, 8 a.m., runsignup.com.

Periwinkle Beer Mile, 1m novelty run, Beaufort, 2 p.m., runsignup.com.

Step Up for Soldiers Combat Mud Run with obstacles 5K, Wilmington, wave starts 9 a.m. to noon, runsignup.com.

8th Storm the Stadium Steps Climb, ECU, Greenville, runsignup.com.
Taylor Anne Foundation

7K, Bond Park, Cary, 9 a.m., runsignup.com. *Live & Virtual.*

The Cub, 7m, Valle Crucis School, 8 a.m., pinwheel.us/register.

30th Human Race 5K, Co. Park, Greensboro, 9 a.m., racerooster.com. *Live & Virtual.*

April 21

Race for the Planet 5K, Fort Fisher Aquarium, Kure Beach, 8 a.m., runsignup.com. *Live & Virtual.*

April 26

Mebane Dogwood Festival 5K, downtown, 6:30 p.m., runsignup.com by 4/22.

April 27

31st Angels Among Us 5K, Flowers Drive at Yearby Avenue, Duke medical campus, Durham, 8 a.m., support-dukehealth.org/site.

Socks and Undies 5K Run-die, New Hope Church, 7619

Fayetteville Rd., Durham, 9:30 a.m., runsignup.com. *Live & Virtual.*

13th Scallywag 5K/10K, Ocracoke, 8 a.m., runsignup.com.

Socks & Undies 5K Run-die, Crossroads Fellowship Campus, 4730 Hargrove Rd., Raleigh, 9:30 a.m., runsignup.com. *Live & Virtual.*

Water for People 5K, White Oak Church Road access at ATT, 9 a.m., runsignup.com.

May 1

Corporate Fun Run Research Triangle 5K, WMSP, Cary, 6:30 p.m., corporate-funrun.com.

May 4

Komen NC Triangle Race for the Cure 5K, Boxyard at RTP, 9 a.m., secure.info-komen.org/site/TR/racefortheCure?

Jogging for Josh 5K, Burlington, 9 a.m., fseries.com.

Learning Outside 5K trail, Pluck Farm, Mebane, 9:15 a.m., runsignup.com.

Seaforth HS Hawks Flight Color Run 5K, Pittsboro, 8 a.m., runsignup.com.

Cinco de Mayo Beer Mile 1m novelty run, Camelback Brewing, Sanford, 12 noon, runsignup.com by 5/3.

Get Your Rear in Gear 5K, WMSP, Cary, 9 a.m., coloncancercoalition.org.

May the Course Be With You 5K/10K with costumes, Greensboro, 7:45 a.m., runsignup.com.

3rd Race to Bridge the Gap 5 K, Christ Baptist Church, Raleigh, 8 a.m., racereach.com.

Carolina Strawberry Festival 5K, Clement Park, Wallace, 8 a.m., runsignup.com.

The Derby Run 5K/10K, Terry Sanford HS, Fayetteville, 8:15 a.m., runsignup.com.

YMCA Families On! Challenge, 2+m, AE Finley Y, Raleigh, 8 a.m., runsignup.com.

May 5

Sustainability 5K, 3430 Ridge Rd., UNC, Chapel Hill, 7:30 a.m., runsignup.com.

Racing for Rescues 5K, Bass Lake Park, Holly Springs,

8 a.m., runsignup.com.

May 11

Rescheduled, 2nd Exceptional Strides for Exceptional Students 5K trail, Northwood HS XC course, Pittsboro, 9:30 a.m., runsignup.com.

The Fast and the Furriest 5K for Animals, Gold Park, Hillsborough, 9:30 a.m., independentanimalrescue.redpodium.com by 5/10.

GCA Mom's Day 5K, Haw River, 9 a.m., itsyourrace.com.

Bloom and Zoom 8K/5K, WMSP, Cary, 8:15 a.m., runsignup.com. *Live & Virtual.*

Lake Waccamaw SP Fatmucket Walk, Run & Ruck 5K/10K, 9:30 a.m., runsignup.com.

Ninja 5K/10K, Green Hills CP, Raleigh, 9 a.m., runsignup.com.

2nd Run the Branch Greenway, Clayton, 9 a.m., runsignup.com.

May 17

Catching Fireflies 5K, light required, Raleigh, 8:25 p.m., runsignup.com.

May 18

Bee Amazing 5K, 800 Park Offices Dr., RTP, 9:30 a.m., racereach.com.

Lookin' for a Cure, Bull City Running, S. Durham, 8 a.m., runsignup.com.

Watermelon Run 5K, WMSP, Cary, 8 a.m., runsignup.com.

Marine Chevy Shuffle 5K/10K, Jacksonville, 9 a.m., runsignup.com.

5th Miles for Music 5K, Front Street, Beaufort, 8:20 a.m., runsignup.com.

Tackle the Tar 5K obstacle run, Rocky Mount, 8:45 a.m., eventbrite.com by 5/16.

May 23

NC Beer Mile, 1m novelty run, Bond Brothers, Cary, 6 p.m., fseries.com.

May 25

Memorial Day Trail Run 8/5/3m, Charlotte, 8 a.m., center.whitewater.org.

Memorial Day Waffle House Run 5K/10K, Albemarle, 7 a.m., runsignup.com. *Live & Virtual.*

Ninja HM/15K/10K/5K, Veterans Park, Concord, 9 a.m., runsignup.com.

The Bear Crawl OCR, 6/3/ 2m, Morganton, 7 a.m., runsignup.com.

May 12

Lake Norman HM, Mooresville, 7 a.m., runsignup.com. *Live & Virtual.*

May 18

Cedarock Trail Run HM/10K/5K, Burlington, 8 a.m., runsignup.com.

Strawberry Jam HM/5K,

Bryson City, 7:15 a.m., gloryhoundinn.enmotive.com/events

New River M/HM trail, Todd, 7:30 a.m., runsignup.com. (5K Fri nite).

Quest for the Crest 50K/25L/10K trail, Burnsville, ultra-signup.com.

May 19

25th NCRC Classic HM/10K, Cary, 7 a.m., racereach.com.

May 25

Beer City 20K Relay/5K, Asheville, 8am, racerooster.com.

NC Multisport

April 20

Belews Lake Sprint Tri, Duathlon, Stokesdale, 8 a.m., runsignup.com. *Live & Virtual.*

April 27

Beaverdam international tri (1500m swim, 24.9m bike, 6.2m run) and sprint tri (750m swim, 15m bike, 2m run), sprint duathlon, Falls Lake, Wake Forest, 8 a.m., fseries.com.

Lake Norman SP sprint tri, Troutman, 8am, runsignup.com.

May 4

White Lake ProAm Half, White Lake 7am, runsignup.com

Whitewater Tris, full and sprint, Charlotte, 7:30 a.m., center.whitewater.org.

May 5

White Lake International 7 a.m., Sprint Tri, 8 a.m., White

Lake, runsignup.com.

May 8

6th Brickhouse Summer Sprint Tri Series, first of four, 400y swim, 11m bike, 2m run, Rolling View SRA, Falls Lake, Durham, 6 p.m., runsignup.com.

May 11

New River Splash Sprint Tri/Duathlon/5K, Jacksonville, 7:30 a.m., runsignup.com.

May 19

Just Tryan It, youth tri, kids 6-11, Chapel Hill CC, Chapel Hill, 8:30 a.m., runsignup.com.

14th Jordan Lake Open Water Challenge, 1K (0.6m)/1.2 /2.4m, Vista Point, Jordan Lake, Pittsboro, 8 a.m., fseries.com by 5/17.

NC Bike Rides are posted on the website

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May 15 – Spring Cycling

June 12 – Summer Sports

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COMMUNITY SPORTS NEWS

Published monthly

Covering adult sports and recreation Distributed free in Orange County, from Jordan Lake to Hillsborough, Mebane

Chief Editor Joel Bulkley

Advertising rates and publication schedule available upon request. *One copy per person; additional copies may be purchased from CSN.*

311 Granville Rd., Chapel Hill, NC 27514

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NC Long Distance

April 20

Tar Heel 10 Miler/4m/DoubleDown, UNC Bell Tower, Chapel Hill, 7:50 a.m., tarheel-10miler.com/registration.

HalfCraft HM/5K, Winston-Salem, 8:30 a.m., runsignup.com. *Live & Virtual.*

5th N.C. Spring Classic, 16K/8K/5K, Holly Springs, 7:15 a.m., runsignup.com.

Tuck Fest HM/5K trail, Charlotte, 8 a.m. (also 5K trail Fri, Sun), tuckfest.whitewater.org.

Wake Forest Historic Half/3m, Wake Forest, 7:30 a.m., fseries.com.

April 21

Flying Pirate HM, Kill Devil Hills, obxse.enmotive.com. Also 5K Sat.

April 27

Owl's Roost Rumble, trail HM/4m, Bur-Mil, Greensboro, 7:30 a.m., runsignup.com. *Live & Virtual.*

11th Run Sunset Beach

HM/10K/5K, 6:45 a.m., runsignup.com. *Live & Virtual.*

Tobacco Road Relay, 75m, Chapel Hill to Durham-to Raleigh, wave start 6-12 noon, runsignup.com.

April 28

16th Philosopher's Way Trail Run, 10m/7K, Carolina North Forest, Chapel Hill, 8am, runsignup.com. *Live & Virtual.*

9th Blackbeard HM, Ocracoke, 7 a.m., runsignup.com.

May 4

6th Zen Squirrel Trail Run, 10/5/2m, Briar Chapel, Pittsboro, 8 a.m., runsignup.com.

Neuse River Bridge Run HM/10K/5K, New Bern, 7 a.m., runsignup.com. *Live & Virtual.*

Pisgah 10/8 Hr Adventure Races, solo or team, Nebo, runsignup.com.

May 11

4th Jump off Rock HM/10K, Hendersonville, 7:30 a.m., racerooster.com.

Mud Dogs Smoke King Ballers 99-63

Regular season winner Mud Dogs rolled third ranked King Ballers 99-63 behind ten 3-pointers and six double figure scorers to win the Orange County men's basketball winter league in Hillsborough. Halftime was 35-27.

Victor Gray tallied 19 (four 3-pointers), D'Antre Harvey 18, Garrell Long and Logan Vosburg 16 each, Trent Torain and Quoe Peniox 12 apiece for the winners. Seven players scored. Travis Brown netted 23 points, Malcolm Jeffries 17 (five 3-pointers), Tashawn Terry 14 for King Ballers who had only five players.

Earlier, Mud Dogs eliminated #4 Eagles 64-60 and KB ousted #2 Hello 84-77 in the semis.

Summer Hoops

Orange County offers a men's adult summer hoops league starting June 2 that plays Sunday afternoon 2:30-6:30 p.m. through Aug. 18 at Central Rec Center, Hillsborough. Cost is \$375/team. Register by team only. Call 919-245-2660 by May 19. Free agent players can call to get on the list for coaches.

Farmers' Market Spring Hours

Area farmers' markets shifted to spring hours.

Carrboro FM, celebrating 45 years, runs Saturday 7 a.m. to 12 noon and Wednesday Market 3-6 through Nov. 20. Strawberry Day is May 4 and Tomato Day July 13.

Chapel Hill Farmers' Market operates 8-12 Saturday and Tuesday Market 3-6 starts April 16.

Eno River FM hours are Saturday 10-12 year round in downtown Hillsborough.

Ferrington FM is Tuesday 4-6 p.m. at Ferrington Village.

Pittsboro FM operates Thursday 3-6 at The Point, 220 Lorax Lane.

Chatham Mills FM is Saturday 8-12.

Summer Soccer

Ocasl@tasl soccer is holding registration for summer leagues—over, 30, 40, 50, open rec. Cost is \$65 (over 50) to \$95/player for 8v8, 11v11 divisions. Games begin in early June and run into August. Contact soccer@tasl.us.

Pickleball Winners At Bull City Open

Six local doubles teams were division winners at the Inaugural Piney Wood Bull City Open in Durham (399 pickleball players).

Here are divisions and teams: WDoubles 2.5, Wendy Thompson, Chapel Hill, and Amanda Henley, Charlotte; MDoubles 4.5, Douglas Burleson, Pittsboro, and Samuel Eaton; Mixed Doubles 4.0, John Conklin, Chapel Hill, and Tammy Brown, Raleigh; WDoubles 4.0, Samantha Delgado Garcia, Pittsboro, and Amanda Pollock, Apex; MDoubles 3.5 60+, Rollie Olin, Chapel Hill, and Kevin Staring; Mixed Doubles 2.5, Greg Thompson, Hillsborough, and Wendy Thompson, Chapel Hill.

60 Ex-ACCers On UFL Rosters

The ACC had five dozen former players on opening day rosters for the United Football League.

North Carolina and Duke had three players each and all 14 schools were represented. Teams play ten regular season games with the league championship June 16.

Ex-UNC players and teams are DB Myles Dorn, Arlington; WR Anthony Ratliff-Williams, Houston; DT Jalen Dalton, San Antonio; From Duke, DB Mark Gilbert,

Birmingham; OG Chance Lytle, Memphis; RB Mataeo Durant, St. Louis.

Other schools and number of UFL players: Miami 9, Boston College 6, Clemson, Virginia, Louisville 5 each, Wake Forest, Pitt, NC State, Fla. State, Syracuse 4 apiece, Ga. Tech 3, Va. Tech 1.

Eno Downs Cape Fear 41-31

Eno River women's rugby defeated Cape Fear 41-31 in Durham for the first win of the spring season. Bones was the forward star of the match, Kelsey back and Avery defense.

Eno picked up another win when Atlanta Harlequins didn't play Eno as part of a DH in Columbia, SC, and forfeited to end the regular season.

Eno finished the year 4-0-5 in sixth place in D2 women with 22 points in Carolinas Geographic Rugby Union. Division leader was Atlanta 7-0-2 (43).

Shealy Wins NCAA Saber Fencing Title

Maggie Shealy, a senior at Brandeis and an East Chapel Hill graduate, won the NCAA women's saber national fencing championship in Columbus, OH. She was the second seed and defeated Julia Cieslar of St. John's 15-10 in the final. Shealy was the second D3 player to win a fencing national championship and first at Brandeis to win an individual title. She finished third last year.

Sophie Kovacs of UNC finished tenth (27 entries). Harvard won the team title, with Duke 10, Brandeis 15, UNC 21.

East Chapel Hill is one of three local schools that are members of N.C. Fencing League and competes in the Coastal Conference with Chapel Hill, Orange High and 15 others. It's considered a club sport.

Ruggers Crush Charlotte 54-10; Summer Sevens

Tobacco Road men's rugby swamped Charlotte Barbarians 54-10 on the road to close out the spring 15s season. TR went 2-2 in league matches and 3-0-5 for the entire year (17 points, seventh place in Carolinas M3). Asheville (32) was first.

Bill Kinney led the scoring with 4 tries. Alex Good, Corbin Moseley, Aaron "Krispy" Craig, Matt Markovetz added one each. Jack Sears converted 6 of 7 and Corbin Moseley converted his own try as time expired in what he said was his last game (we'll see).

Kinney was back of the match and Jonah Paasche-Orlow forward of the match.

TR will start weekly summer 7s practice in May and weekend tournaments in June and July. Practices likely will be Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. at Old North Durham Park near downtown. Check social media for confirmation.

Pickleball Winners

A brother team of Cannon and Carter Stacey won a beginner pickleball tournament at Orange County Sportsplex, Hillsborough (12 teams).



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Hope Is Rewarded In Rowing Film

Gail Arneke

The Boys in the Boat, a film directed by George Clooney. Screenplay by Mark L. Smith, based on the book of the same name by Daniel James Brown. Starring: Joel Edgerton as Coach Al Ulbrickson, Callum Turner as Joe Rentz, Peter Guinness as Joe Pocock, boat builder, Jack Mulherin as Donny, Hadley Robinson as Joyce, Joe's girlfriend, Courtney Henggeler as Hazel Ulbrickson, Coach's wife, Juydd James as Jesse Owens. Lots of other folks. This film is on Amazon Prime Video now.

This movie is a total throwback, a film based on a true story of an underdog sports team going for the gold against severe odds. It is beautifully filmed, accompanied by a lovely score, and exciting. It's exciting although you can pretty much guess the ending, especially if you have researched the 1936 Olympics.

But it is a gracious and loving portrayal of a singular team and so reminiscent of an earlier brand of movie that it is a pleasure to watch. And you can learn a lot about the sport of rowing.

The movie starts in Seattle in about 1935. At the University of Washington we meet Joe Rentz, a freshman at the university and a victim of the Depression. He is living in an abandoned car, wearing ragged clothes and lining his shoes with newspaper. Somehow he has paid half of his first year's tuition, but the other half is due in two weeks, and he doesn't know where it might come from. There are no jobs available. Joe's father abandoned his family when Joe was fourteen, and Joe has been on his own since.

Joe and his buddy learn that the rowing team is holding tryouts for its JV squad. Younger readers might want to consult a grandpar-

ent about what JV is. Hundreds of guys show up, as the team offers some pay and a room. Joe and his buddy make the team, and there is a lengthy montage of rowing training, interspersed with an exhausted Joe being pursued by the adorable Joyce, who manages to keep him awake in class and of course falls in love with him.

The gruff but understanding coach, Al Ulbrickson, picks Joe and his buddy for the JV eight. He advises that they must turn themselves into one highly coordinated team and work as one. The movie skips few true sports cliches, and somehow they are not trite but touching and in keeping with the bygone era shown. Coach tells his men that they will compete against "the best teams in the world," and they will be ready for them. The answer from the team? "We won't let you down, Coach."

The team's first challenge is in a regatta against their chief foe, California. The Cal and Washington coaches glare at each other from adjoining docks to demonstrate heated rivalry. Our boys win, setting a record, although they are still the JV squad.

Now we have a rivalry between the senior team and the JV. Coach risks his job to take the JV team to Poughkeepsie for a national regatta on the Hudson. The winner there will

BOYS IN THE BOAT, Cont. on page 9

Carolina Flyers Home Opener

The Carolina Flyers are a men's pro ultimate team that plays in the south division of Ultimate Frisbee Association (defending division winner) with home games at Durham County Stadium, Durham.

Their season opener is April 27 at 6 against Atlanta Hustle and have another home date May 11 against them. Tickets are \$15, with children U12 free.

Seven Former Tar Heels In MLB

Seven former UNC baseball players, five of the pitchers, were on opening day MLB rosters. That's four fewer than last season.

Players and teams are Daniel Bard, Colorado, RHP; JB Bukauskas, Milwaukee, RHP; Michael Busch, Chicago Cubs, 1B; Zac Gallen, Arizona, RHP; Ryder Ryan, Pittsburgh, RHP; Jacob Stallings, Colorado, C; Trent Thornton, Seattle, RHP.

Four New Sports Join State Games

The Body Armor State Games in Charlotte added new sports like arm wrestling, flag football/adult, padel and dock dogs for 2024. They join traditional sports like mountain biking, archery, disc golf, hockey, karate, kickball, pickleball, taekwondo, youth sports like basketball, baseball, track & field. Check nc-sports.org website for details and registration.

The sport lineup is ever-changing; no swimming, shooting, adult track & field, tennis, sand volleyball this year. Some sports may return later, organizers said, depending on the year and market. The State Games alternate between Charlotte and the Triangle.

The strangest addition is dog docks with three kinds of competition for the four-legged entries who like to run, jump and swim. It will be held June 15-16 in Mt. Pleasant, N.C. Locally the N.C. Pet Expo has it and takes place July 28-Aug. 4 in Raleigh.

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<p>Sat., May 11, 2024 Behind Home Depot, Hampton Pointe, 625 Hampton Pointe, Hillsborough Drive-Thru Service</p>	<p>Sat., May 18, 2024 Park & Ride Lot, 1768 Eubanks Road, Chapel Hill Drive-Thru Service</p>
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CSN PUBLIC GOLF CHART 2024						
Course			Fees		Slp Rtg Tee	
Website	Phone	City	Daily	Weekends		
Bryan Park bryanpark.com (36 Holes)	336-375-2200	Grbo Champions berm Players bent	M-Th 55* F59* M-Th 53* F56*	SS 67* SS 64*	129 71.8 White 129 71 White	
Caswell Pines caswellpines.com	336-375-2200	Yanceyville	M-F 45*	SS 49*	125 70.3 White	
Challenge challengegolf.net	336-578-5070	Graham	M-F 45*	SS 55*	135 71.3 Blue	
Chapel Ridge chapelridgegolfclub.com	919-545-2242	Chapel Hill	Variable go to online	tee times	125 71.2 Blue	
Crossings Grove Prk crossingsgolf.com	919-598-8686	Durham	M-F 45*	SS 69*	131 71.1 Black	
Duke golf.duke.edu	919-681-2288	Durham	M-Tu-120* W-Th-125*#	FSS 140* #	129 70.9 Blue	
Eagles Ridge eagleridgegolfnc.com	919-661-6300	Garner	M-Th 52* F62*	SS 72*	126 70 White	
Falls Village fallsvillagegolf.com	919-596-4653	Durham	Variable go to online	tee times	130 71.7 Blue	
Finley UNC uncfinley.com	919-962-2349	Chapel Hill	M* Tu** W-Th 110*	FSS 120* #	130 70.4 Blue	
Goodyear Golf goodyeargolf.com	434-797-1909	Danville Va.	M-F 42*	SS 48*	131 69.9 White	
Grandover Resort grandoverresort.com/golf/36 Holes East/West	336-323-3838	Greensboro	M-Th 82*	FSS 92*	E 125 69.9 White W129 70.4 Blue	
Heddingham nrgac.com/rates.cfm	919-250-3030	Raleigh	M-Th 47* F53*	SS 59*	126 71.6 Black	
Heritage Golf playheritagegolf.com	919-453-2020	Wake Forest	M-Th 76*	FSS 98*	125 71 Blue	
Hillandale www.hillandalegolf.com	919-286-4211	Durham	M-F 40*	SS 45*	125 70 Blue	
Keith Hills www.keithhillsoc.com (27Holes) Orange/White/Black	919-893-5051	Buies Crk	M-Th 45*	SS 69*	131 72.2 Org/Blk 128 71.4 White/Org	
Lake Winds lakewindsourse.com	919-471-4653	Rougemont	M-F 23*	SS 29*	123 68.9 Blue	
Lochmere Golf www.clubcorp-golf.com	919-851-0611	Cary	M-Th 55* F60*	SS 70*	132 72.1 Black	
Lonnie Poole NC State www.lonniepoolegolfcourse.com	919-833-3338	Raleigh	M-Th 75* #	FSS 100* #	132 70.8 Red	
Mill Creek www.golfmillcreek.com	919-563-4653	Mebane	M-Th 55* F60*	SS 75*	132 71.1 Blue	
Neuse www.neusegolf.com	919-550-0550	Clayton	M-Th 60* F70*	SS 75*	134 71.4 Blue	
Ocooneechee www.oconechee.com	919-732-3435	Hillsborough	M-F 44*	SS 50*	125 69.5 Blue	
Olde Liberty www.nrgac.com	919-554-4690	Youngsville	M-Th 42* F48*	SS 54*	128 70.2 White	
Pine Hollow www.pinehollowgolf.com	919-553-4554	Clayton	M-Th 57* F68*	SS 73*	134 71.9 Blue	
Preserve Jordan Lake www.thepreservegolf.com	919-542-5501	Chatham	Variable go to online	tee times	125 70.3 White	
Quail Ridge quailridgegolfcourse.com	800-398-9709	Sanford	M-F 75*	SS 80*	124 69.9 White	
Quaker Creek www.quakercreekgolf.com	336-578-5789	Mebane	M-F 30*	SS 40*	125 71.1 Blue	
Raleigh Golf Assoc. www.rgagolf.net	919-772-9987	Raleigh	M-Th 38* F40*	SS 47*	122 68.7 Blue	
Reedy Creek www.reedycreekgolf.com	919-934-7502	Four Oaks	M-F 55*	SS 68*	133 70.2 Blue	
River Ridge golfriverridge.com	919-661-8374	Clayton	M-Th 55*	FSS 80*	130 70.1 Blue	
Riverwood www.nrgac.com	919-550-1819	Clayton	M-Th 52* F62*	SS 72*	122 70.9 White	
Southwick 336-227-2582		Graham	M-F 26*	33.00*	121 68.3 Blue	
Stoney Creek www.stoneycreekgolf.com	336-449-5688	Greensboro	M-Th 55*	FSS 65*	131 69.8 Blue	
Twin Lakes www.golf-twinlakes.com	933-1024 (9 holes)	Chapel Hill	M-Th 21* (9 hole) M-Th 34* (18 hole)	23.00*(9 hole) 38.00*(18 hole)	122 69.2 Blue	
Umstead Pines (Willowhaven) www.umsteadpines.com 919-383-1022		Durham	M-F 48*	SS 57*	128 70.4 Blue	
The Valley ci.burlington.nc.us	336-584-7871	Burlington	M-Th 40* F45*	SS 50*	125 71.2 Medal	
Wildwood Green www.wildwoodgreen.com	919-846-8376	Raleigh	M-Th 70* F75*	SS 80*	129 70.4 Blue	
# Discounts for Students, Faculty, Alumni * Price includes cart fee ^ Members Only on Monday ^^ Closed on Tuesday Call all for Sr., Jr., and Twilight discounts Most allow walking except weekends Before 12...Call to verify times and rates Slope and Rating for tees @ 6300 yds						

CSN April 2024

Local Qualifiers For U.S. Open

Local qualifying for the 124th U.S. Open in Pinehurst in June takes place in North Carolina April 24 at River Landing, Wallace, April 29 at Duke University GC, Durham, and May 1 at Pinehurst Resort & CC (Course 6), Village of Pinehurst.

Two years ago Duke had 86 golfers for Open Qualifying and five advanced. They didn't have it in 2023. Final Qualifying will be held at Old Chatham GC, Durham, June 3, and other sites.

Old Chatham 10th In Latest NC Ratings

Pinehurst No. 2, the site for the U.S. Open in June, continued atop the 2024 ratings of North Carolina top 100 golf courses by the N.C. Golf Panel. Grandfather Golf & Country Club in Linville was second and the Country Club of North Carolina (Dogwood), Pinehurst, was third.

Old Chatham GC of Durham moved from 17 to 10 and was the top local course. Other Triangle courses with impressive rankings were Raleigh Country Club (17), MacGregor Downs, Cary (19), Governors Club, Chapel Hill (26), Prestonwood CC, Cary (Highlands) (28), Treyburn CC, Durham (35), Finley GC, Chapel Hill (47), Lonnie Poole GC, Raleigh (52).

Also, Hasentree Club, Wake Forest (54), Duke University GC, Durham (56), Hope Valley CC, Durham (63), Carolina Country Club, Raleigh (65). The rankings are published annually in the April issue of Business North Carolina.

Charlotte Golf Future Unclear

The pro golf picture for Charlotte is unclear after 2024-25 until the proposed merger of the PGA and LIV Golf is resolved and the ground rules for future PGA tournaments established. The last Wells Fargo Championship is 2024 (CSN, Jan 2024) and the next PGA Championship scheduled at Quail Hollow in May 2025.

Charlotte golf officials are interested in hosting more major events including the women's open, but nothing's been decided.

Dividing Up CSN Golf Chart

Off the top of my head and obviously this is subjective.....

Top tier courses: Duke, Finley, Lonnie Poole, Heritage

Better than average: Bryan Park, Grandover, Keith Hills, Mill Creek, Neuse, Pine Hollow, Preserve, River Ridge, Stoney Creek, Umstead Pines

Average: Caswell Pines, Challenge, Chapel Ridge, Crossings, Eagles Ridge, Falls Village, Goodyear, Hillandale, Lochmere, Wildwood Green

Uncertain or Pending: Heddingham, Lake Winds, Quaker Creek, Quail Ridge, Raleigh Golf Association, Reedy Creek, Riverwood, Southwick, The Valley and Twin Lakes are all places that I have played in the past but not in the recent past so I don't really know how to rate them.

Never played: Olde Liberty...

If I hector pick five of the above for value and conditions I would pick Bryan Park (either course), Mill Creek, Pine Hollow and Stoney Creek.

Mike Mauriello

CSN Golf Chart

The 2024 CSN Golf Chart was compiled by Mike Mauriello and covers about three dozen public and semi-public courses in the region. The chart covers the same courses as last year with the addition of Grandover Resort in Greensboro (36 holes).

"Grandover is just another nice course that is not that far away, 36 holes. If you don't mind spending a little more it is pretty nice....," Mauriello said. Course was designed by David Graham and Gary Parks at One Thousand Club Drive, Greensboro, 6800 yards, par 72, 336-323-3838, grandover.com.

Again, there are no published rates for three courses, Chapel Ridge, Falls Village, Preserve at Jordan Lake. They have dynamic or on demand pricing that uses a program taking into account the time of day, season, weather conditions, day of the week.

Be sure to call ahead for tee times and check for any specials or discounts, as well as late afternoon twilight rates. Most courses allow walking weekdays and after 1 p.m. on Sundays.

Golf Notes From All Over

Mike Mauriello

Pinehurst resort recently added a new Tom Doak design known as #10 to its championship lineup. The course is located a few miles south of the resort and is built on property that is part of a 900 acre purchase made in 2010 named Sandmines. In addition to the many traps and sandy waste areas this course features elevation changes of 75 feet. It's the first new course in about three decades.

For those of you who have played in and around Pinehurst for the past 40 years you will recognize the location as the spot where "The Pit", a Dan Maples design that was operational from 1985 to 2010, was situated. Take the 10 minute tour of every hole on YouTube at Pinehurst #10—Every Hole FIRST LOOK.

Speaking of Pinehurst, #2 will host the US Open this year June 13-16. Go to US-OPEN.com for ticket info. This will be the first time Pinehurst has hosted a major since it was home to both the men's and women's U.S. Open in 2014.

If your time is flexible, and you think you might enjoy volunteering at a pro golf event, let me explain how the process typically works. You go to the event website and fill out a volunteer form. Typically, you have to spend \$100-200 and that pays for a shirt or two, usually a hat, sometimes a windbreaker or jacket, and often a water bottle. It is usually required that you work 4 shifts of about 6 hours.

You pick from several different categories of jobs. You might work as a cashier in the merchandise tent, or a greeter when patrons first arrive, or a marshal around the tees, greens or in the stands. You might be a scorekeeper walking with a threesome, or work with the crew that stocks water and ice in the coolers on the tee boxes. You receive a pass that allows you to have free access to the tournament anytime during the tourney. On the days that you work, they provide a free meal. Oftentimes you are watching golf action while you are working! Sometimes you even get a free round at the course. That was a nice bonus when I volunteered at the Senior Amateur at Old Chatham a few years ago. You can make some wonderful golf contacts as well... I highly recommend it.

Renovation plans for the Duke University Golf Club in Durham have been indefinitely postponed pending further study. Plans initially were considered for major renovations of tees and greens in 2025...

UNC's Finley reopened last fall after a dramatic redo. Course now reserved for members Monday, closed Tuesday and open to the public Wednesday-Sunday...

When you are referring to the golf chart in CSN, make sure you go online and/or call courses for discounted rates. Ask about senior rates, junior rates, twilight rates, resident rates, alumni rates, etc...

If you are looking for places to go for a few days of golf fun and relaxation with fel-

Pro Golf Tour Visits

Here are pro golf dates this year in the Tar Heel state:

May 9-12, Wells Fargo Championship, Quail Hollow Club, Charlotte, \$20M purse, CBS.

June 13-16, U.S. Open, Pinehurst No. 2, NBC.

Aug. 8-11, Wyndham Championship, Sedgefield CC, Greensboro, purse \$7.9M, CBS.

Others: May 30-June 2, Korn Ferry Tour, UNC Health Championship presented by STITCH, Raleigh Country Club, purse \$1M; Oct. 11-13, Champions Tour, SAS Championship, Prestonwood CC, Cary, purse \$2.1M, Golf Channel.

In 2025, The PGA Championship will be played in May at Quail Hollow Club, Charlotte, and the U.S. Girls' Junior Championship in July at Old Chatham Club, Durham.

low golfers consider Talamore in Southern Pines on Midland Road.... There are several golf packages available including a special for playing their course and another they own across the street named Mid South. 3 rounds, accommodations for 4 at Talamore in a two bedroom, 2 bath condo, breakfast delivered to the condo two days, free pig pickin' dinner one night, free Scotty Cameron putter and a \$50 resort credit....11-29 /12-1 for \$639. Call 800-552-6292.

Another place that I have been going to for over 20 years is Olde Mill Golf Course in the mountains of Virginia, not far from the Blue Ridge Parkway in Laurel Fork. The greens are always in good shape, temperatures a little cooler in the summers, nice driving range and putting green and it boasts a fine restaurant and bar on site. Condos are a little dated but comfortable and clean. Breakfast buffet included in price... 2 nights and three rounds of golf during spring/summer for @ \$400-450. Oldemill.net. Call 276-398-2211.

Have fun out there!



GREEN FEES, Continued from page 1

clude cart fees as part of the cost for the round.

The annual CSN golf survey of about three dozen regional courses found only five that held the line on green fees, two had small reductions, with two dozen raising rates. The fees at Duke, Finley, Lonnie Poole are so complicated with discounts for students, faculty, alumni, club members, etc, we didn't count them. Three courses with variable pricing don't publish their rates so we don't know about them.

Bryan Park (Greensboro), The Challenge (Graham), Keith Hills (Buies Creek), Mill Creek (Mebane), Twin Lakes (Chapel Hill) kept prices the same as last year. Lake Winds (Durham) lowered rates by \$1, and Southwick (Graham) lowered weekdays by \$2, Fri/Sat/Sun by \$1.

At the other end of the spectrum, Heritage Golf (Wake Forest) raised weekdays by \$7, Neuse (Clayton), Wildwood Green (Raleigh) hiked M-Th \$8. Caswell Pines, Heddingham, The Valley, Lochmere, Reedy Creek, River Ridge. Quail Ridge raised weekdays by \$5. About ten courses hiked weekdays by \$3.

Locally, The Crossings Grove Park raised weekdays by \$1, weekends by \$3; Hillandale hiked weekdays by \$4, weekends by \$3; Occoneechee raised rates by \$1 for both; Umstead Pines (Willohaven) raised M-F by \$8, SS by \$9.

Biggest weekend price increases were \$8 for Olde Liberty, Reedy Creek; \$9 Heritage Golf, Umstead Pines; \$10 River Ridge. J.B.



NICA/Race 3 Danville Dash

Area riders took first place in half the races (8) of the 16 at Danville Dash (Va), Race 3 in the N.C. NICA MTB series, 409 riders. First place is worth 500 points, 25th in the same race 348. All finishers earn points for their schools for the race and season.

Top local finishers included Oliver Jensen, Orange Co. Composite, first 8th grade boys, 1 lap, 16:42 (41 finishers).

8th grade girls—Sage Prochazka, McDougle, second, 1 lap, 19:12 (13).

6th grade girls—Vivienne Myers, Smith, first, 1 lap, 18:16 (18).

HS3 boys—Andreas Trinidad, Chatham Co. Chaos, first, 1 lap, 15:24 (34).

MSA boys—Jesse West, Smith, first, 2 laps, 29:00 (50).

HS2 Boys—Leif Hastings, Chapel Hill High, first, 2 laps, 29:24, (72).

Varsity girls—Ada Watson, Chapel Hill High, first, 4 laps, 1:02:12 (9).

MSA girls, Anne Neal, McDougle, first, 2 laps, 34:46 (18); Claudia Baum, Smith, third, 35:17.

HSA boys, Rodek Prochazka, Chapel Hill High, first, 3 laps, 44:17 (24).

Team results, high schools, for this race: Chapel Hill High, second, 2087. Leader had 2102; East Chapel Hill, 8, 1883; Chatham Chaos, 31, 988; Orange Co. Composite, 42, 408.

Middle schools—Smith, first, 2033, McDougle, second, 1958; Orange Co. Composite N, 1392; Orange Co. Composite S, 29, 1216; Chatham Co. Chaos, 34, 1171; Chatham Co. Chaos/Pollard, 36, 1145; Phillips, 42, 868; Culbreth, 46, 736.

Team results for the first three races: high schools, Lake Norman Composite, first, 6375, Asheville HS, second, 6250; Chapel Hill High, third, 6148; East Chapel Hill, ninth, 5662; Chatham Co. Chaos, 29, 3447; Orange Co. Composite, 39, 2116. Middle Schools, Smith, first, 6091; McDougle, third, 5752; Chatham Co. Chaos/Pollard, 16, 4585; Phillips, 19, 4480; Orange Co. Composite S, 24, 4352; Orange Co. Composite N, 28, 4093; Chatham Co. Chaos, 36, 3432; Culbreth, 45, 2510.

NICA/Race 2: Salisbury Scramble

Area riders won four races at Salisbury Scramble, race 2 in the N.C. NICA MTB series, 505 riders.

Here are top local finishers:

7th Grade Boys—Morgan Watson, Smith Middle, second, 1 lap, 20:44 (52 finishers).

6th Grade Boys—Oliver Jensen, Orange

Co. Composite, first, 1 lap, 19:27 (53).

8th Grade Girls—Sage Prochazka, McDougle, second, 1 lap, 23:32 (15).

7th Grade Girls—Oliver Foster, Chatham Co. Chaos/Pollard, third, 1 lap, 23:45 (19).

6th Grade Girls—Vivienne Myers, Smith, first, 1 lap, 20:58, (20).

HS3 Boys—Corwin Kross, Chapel Hill HS, first, 1 lap, 10:08 (50), Andreas Trinidad, Chatham Co. Chaos, third, 19:13.

MSA—Jesse West, Smith, first, 2 laps, 34:33.75, (57), Dylan Hall, Orange Co. CompositeN, second, 34:33.84.

HS2 Boys—Leif Hastings, Chapel Hill HS, second, 2 laps, 47:43 (81).

Varsity Girls—Ada Watson, Chapel Hill HS, second, 4 laps, 1:12:20 (8).

MSA Girls—Tess Neville, Phillips Middle, third, 2 laps, 41:53 (20).

HS1 Boys—Radek Prochazka, Chapel Hill HS, first, 3 laps, 51:47 (29).

High School Team Points Race 2: Chapel Hill HS, second, 2085 points. Leader had 2125. East Chapel Hill was ninth (1853). Middle Schools: Smith Middle, first (2018), McDougle fifth (1909), Phillips eighth (1832) Chatham Co Chaos/Pollard, 11 (1717), Orange Co. Composite S, 23 (1585), Orange Co. Composite N, 32 (1371), Chatham Co. Chaos, 38 (1162).

Season Points after 2 races: High Schools, Chapel Hill, third (4061). Leader had 4273. East Chapel Hill, 9, 3769, Chatham Co. Chaos, 28, 2459. Middle Schools, Smith, first, 4058, McDougle, 5, 3743, Phillips, 8,3612.

McPherson First In Women's Races

Jeanne-Marie McPherson of Carrboro (UNC Cycling) took first in WCollegiate A at the Rogue State Road Race in New Hill (3 finishers). She was second at the Wake Forest road race in Winston-Salem last month. Matteo Fulgheri (UNC) was fourth in M-Cat 1/2/3 (27 riders).

Fred Stutzman of Chapel Hill was third MMasters 40/50 (21) and third Masters 40+ (8).

Road race and criterium were organized by NC State, UNC, Duke cycling clubs as part of Atlantic Coast Cycling Conference schedule with scholastic and community races.

Carter Bridges (UNC) was third in MCollegiate C (8) and McPherson won WCollegiate A (4) at Tuffy Takeover Criterium at Briar Chapel.

Cycling Results

James Price (8:24:51) of Chapel Hill was first 60+ at Croatian Buck Fifty 60+ division (11 finishers) in Swansboro.

Matteo Fulghieri of UNC Cycling was third All Pro Cat 1-3 at Race 1 of Mountain Events Criterium Spring Series in Kernersville (7).

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orangecountync.gov/recycling

Bull City Beer Mile

Warren Bein (7:40.39) of Chapel Hill was third 21-29 at the Third Bull City Beer Mile in Durham. There were 71 finishers, down from 103 last year, for the individual one mile novelty race that involves drinking 12 oz. beers and running one-quarter mile laps. WTs were 5:31.62 and 10:10.09.

Crafty Science (4:52.52) won the two-person relay (26 teams), and Who's Watching the Kids (4:58.71) took first in 4-person teams (40).

Sunset Scramble

Four Chapel Hill runners earned awards at the Sunset Scramble in Cary.

Ray Lloyd (30:16) was third 25-29 and Kelly Holloman (32:33) of Mebane third 40-44 in the 5K (117 finishers). WTs were 19:47 and 20:00.

Kaylee Warren (1:02:43) was first 20-24 and Evan Chan (1:11:38) third in the 10K (54). WT was 52:26.

Isabella Lopez (1:33:45) was first 25-29 in the 15K (21). WT was 1:10:34.

Charlotte Races

Rishabh Sud (1:21:37) of Chapel Hill was first 20-24 at Charlotte RaceFest HM in Charlotte (971 finishers). WT was 1:20:32.

In the 10K (648 finishers), Allisun Donovan (1:21:37) of Pittsboro was first 70+. WT was 35:17.

Only Fools Run HM

Craig Helms (1:48:57) of Chapel Hill was first 60-64 at Only Fools Run HM in Greensboro (159 finishers). WT was 1:20:41.

In the 10K (136), Gina Lacova of Chapel Hill was second 55-59, 1:00:11, and Jim Carter third 55-59, 1:05:01. WTs were 39:42 and 41:37.

Madison Chandler of Hillsborough was first 25-29, 28:20, and Tonya Helms of Chapel Hill, second 60-64, 32:36, in the 5K (227). WTs were 20:07 and 24:10.

Singer Third In Cary HM

Amy Singer (1:43:35) of Hillsborough was third woman at Cary Greenways HM in Cary (241 finishers). WTs were 1:20:59 and 1:25:16.

Award winners from Chapel Hill: Laurie Harmon, first 30-34, 2:01:24; Rachel Hurwitz, first 35-39, 1:53:01; Gwen Van Ark, Carrboro, first 60-64, 2:06:42; Gautam Upadhyay, Pittsboro, first 30-34, 1:36:29; Hudson Shelby, third 40-44, 1:50:41; Wade Bemmals, second 50-54, 1:56:50.

Alex Martinez of Chapel Hill was second 20-24, 26:27 in the 5K (129). WT was 18:56.

Three runners earned awards in the 10K (137): Hannah McCann, Chapel Hill, third 25-29, 1:06:02; Sharon Roggenbuck, Hillsborough, first 85-89, 1:43:08; Philip Rogers, Chapel Hill, first 55-59, 52:30. WTs were 34:49 and 45:44.

Franklin 5K

John Paroli (18:41) and Alyssa Weninger (22:24), both of Chapel Hill, were the winners at 35th ZTA Franklin 5K in Chapel Hill. There were 353 finishers (571 registered), down 10 from last year.

Charlie Modesitt (20:41) of Charlotte was second and Gavin Scott (20:43) of Matthews third. Cheryl Perry (25:53) of Charlotte was second and Geneva Paisan (25:53) of N. Fort Myers, FL, third.

Stewart Second In Cary

Alistair Stewart (18:02) of Hillsborough was second male overall at 30th Run for Life 5K in Cary (312 finishers). Sophia Stewart was first 25-29, 27:42. WTs were 17:57 and 23:28.

Running of The Angels

Leo Fortson (17:12), age 15, of Chapel Hill and Leigh Warren (21:40) of Durham took first at third Running with the Angels 5K in Chapel Hill (59 finishers, compared to 90 last year).

Chapel Hill award winners included Emily McGregor, Hillsborough, second 35-44, 25:08; Annelise Hardin, second 45-54, 29:23; Sean Fortson, first 45-54, 21:47; Les Wilson, second, 24:39; Jacob Smith, second 15-24, 21:23; Ann Daaleman, first 55-65, 33:50; Jessica Harris, second, 43:28; Francisco Benzoni, first 55-65, 21:50; Paul Shreshian, second, 26:10; Sandra Tilden, Pittsboro, first 66+, 50:50; Judy McCord, second, 57:08; Richard Smith, first 66+, 28:64.

Running Notes

Steven Pappas (2:21:38) of Hillsborough was second 40-49 at Gateway to the Smokies HM in Waynesville (62).

Luka Noronha (1:32:11) of Chapel Hill was first 19-24 at 6th Craft Beer HM in Charlotte (809 finishers). WT was 1:13:12.

Matt Hirsch (26:41) of Chapel Hill was third 40-49 at MPS Run for Race 5K in Morrisville (74 runners, down 4 from 2023). WT was 21:24.

Martha Hamblin (38:50) of Mebane was second 65-69 at PTI 5K on the Runway, Greensboro (637). WT was 18:58.

Race News

The Carolina Brotherhood 5K in Haw River March 23 was canceled due to lack of interest.

Pinehurst Triathlon

Terence Costello (2:21:17) of Chapel Hill was first 40-44 and Sara Larson (2:42:33) first 50-54 at Pinehurst International Tri (95 finishers). Distances were 1500m swim, 26.3m bike, 10K run.

Allison LoPiccolo (1:27:08) of Pittsboro was first in advanced sprint women.

Sprint age group (162) award winners: Zach Stern, Chapel Hill, second 20-24, 1:32:26; Harrison Chapman, third 24-29, 1:45:34; Matthew Miller, second 35-39, 1:24:25; Robert Agans, Hillsborough, third 60-64, 1:51:23; Jonathan Farber, Chapel Hill, first 65-69, 1:33:26; Amy Rodriguez, third 40-44, 1:51:18; Elizabeth Skiba, first 50-54, 1:37:01; Cindy Webster, first 60-64, 1:54:18. Distances were 750m swim, 18m bike, 5K run.

Glenaire 5K

Local award winners at Glenaire 5K in Cary: Michael House, Pittsboro, first 25-29, 20:55; Ashlyn Smith, Mebane, second 25-29, 32:37; Erin Gaudin, Chapel Hill, third 35-39, 34:26. WTs were 17:13 and 20:48 (170 finishers, up from 163 last year).

Trail Running Film Festival

A Trail Running Film Festival, a series of short films from Brooks Global Tour, will be presented in Raleigh April 23 6-9 p.m. by Fleet Feet at 3524 Wade Ave. Tickets are \$20 at runsignup.com by 4/22 and half the proceeds go to Triangle Land Conservancy.

MST 12 Miler, 50K

Top local finishers at the MST 12 Miler in Raleigh were Tim Salemy (2:03:35) of Carrboro, second 50-59, and Jane McDaniel (2:19:59) of Chapel Hill, second 30-39.

WTs were 1:32:57 and 1:52:30 (121 finishers, down from 149 last year).

Megan Cooke (5:41:23) of Hillsborough was third female at the 50K Challenge in Raleigh. Sophie Worthy (5:55:14) of Carrboro was first 20-29, Lindsay Klickstein (6:05:33) of Chapel Hill second.

WTs were 4:07:50 and 5:25:16. There were 99 finishers, up from 86 last year).

U.S. Soccer

Men
June 8, Friendly, Colombia, Lanover, MD, 5:30 p.m., TNT, Universo.
12, Continental Classico, Brazil, Orlando, 6 p.m., TNT, Universo.
23, Copa America, Bolivia, Dallas, 6 p.m.
27, Copa America, Panama, Atlanta, 6 p.m.
July 1, Uruguay, Kansas City, 9 p.m.

Women
June 1, International Friendly, Korea, Commerce City, COL, 5 p.m.
4, International Friendly, Korea, St. Paul, MIN, 8 p.m.
July 13, International Friendly, Mexico, Harrison, NJ, 3:30 p.m., TNT, Universo.

Olympic Soccer

U.S. Women, Group B, July 25, Zambia, 3 p.m.; July 28, Germany, 3 p.m.; July 31, Australia, 1 p.m.
U.S. Men, Group A, July 24, France, 3 p.m.; July 27, New Zealand, 1 p.m.; July 30, Africa/Asia Playoff Winner, 1 p.m.
Games likely will be broadcast on NBC or an NBC affiliate.

Graham Mebane Lake In Mebane

Graham Mebane Lake, formerly Quaker Lake, on Beason Road, Mebane in Alamance County, offers fishing, boating, waterskiing, boat rentals (4 hr blocks). No swimming, wading.

Hours are 7-7 in April, 6:30-8 May and June. Call 919-563-6544. It's a city operation. No alcohol. N.C. fishing license required. Boat rentals include canoe, kayak, jon boats, paddle boats.

Waterway Cleanups

The Haw River Assembly's 34th Clean Up a Thon had 317 volunteers and removed 332 bags of trash, 19 tires from shorelines and waterways in Greensboro, Alamance, Orange, Durham, Chatham. The numbers were down slightly from last year.

Clean Jordan Lake Inc. annual spring cleanup, planned for gameland off Seaforth Road in Pittsboro, was canceled in March by threatening weather. Initially it was rescheduled for a Sunday in April but later canceled. A fall cleanup is planned.

FESTIVALS, Continued from page 1

- 20-21, 24th Triangle Lebanese Festival, food, music, dance, 241 Horizon Dr., Raleigh, 11-7 Sat, 12-6 Sun.
- 20, Apex Earthfest, Town Hall Campus, 12-4.
- 20, Bouncing Bulldogs Jump Rope Showcase, Durham Central Park, 2-5.
- 20-21, Piedmont Farm Tour, 30+ farms, 2-6 p.m., 919-542-2409.
- 21, Durham Earth Day Festival, parade, kids' activities, Durham Central Park, 12-5.
- 27, 4th Magical Hill Festival for kids/families, Community Center Park, Chapel Hill, 11-2, food trucks.
- 27, Mebane Dogwood Festival, downtown, 10-7.
- 27, Poetry in the Park, Eno River SP, Durham, 2-4.
- 27, Spring Daze Arts & Crafts Festival, Bond Park, Cary, 9-5.
- 27, Canine Field Day, Rock Quarry Park, Durham, 11-3.
- 27, Raulston Blooms, JC Raulston Arboretum, Raleigh, 10-3, fees
- 28, Chili Cookoff For Living Wages with pro/amateur cooks, Carrboro Town Commons, 12-3, orangelifingwage.org.

May

- 4, Movies Under the Stars, Star Wars: A New Hope, Carolina Square, downtown Chapel Hill, 7 p.m.
- 4, 16th Children's Strawberry Festival, Old N. Durham Park, Durham, 11-3.
- 4, Haw River Festival, music, nature walk, canoe rides for kids, Saxapahaw, 4-8 p.m.
- 4, PeakFest, arts & crafts, music, Salem Street, Apex, 9-5.
- 4, Spring Chicken Festival, music, kids' activities, downtown Siler City, 10-6.
- 4, Meet in the Street, 100+ artists, downtown Wake Forest, 10-4.
- 10-11, Tenth Longleaf Film Festival, NC Museum of History, Raleigh. Free.
- 17-19, Got To Be N.C. Festival, State Fairgrounds, Raleigh. Free.
- 18-19, Durham Greek Festival, food, arts, music, St. Barbara's Church, 8306 NC751, Sat 11-9, Sun 11-7.
- 18-19, Artsposure, the Raleigh arts festival, 175+ juried artists, downtown Raleigh.



N.C. Music Festivals

- May 2-5, 20th Shakori Hills Grassroots Festival of Music and Dance, Silk Hope.
- 3-4, Another World 2024 Concert, hip hop, electronica, dance music, zMax Speedway at Charlotte Motor Speedway, Concord.
- 3-5, Lovin' Life Music Fest, 40 artists, Uptown Charlotte, no seating, standing only.
- 9-11, Malpass Brothers Country and Bluegrass Festival, Denton.
- 9-12, LEAF (Lake Eden Arts Festival) Retreat, Black Mountain.
- 10-11, Carolina Indie Fest, Sanford.
- 11-12, Bear Shadow, Highlands.
- 17-18, Beaufort Music Festival, Gallants Point, Beaufort.
- 18, 10th Atlantic Beach Music Festival, boardwalk at Atlantic Beach, 11-6. Free
- 18, Durham Blues & Brews Festival, 10 food trucks, 20 craft brewers, Durham Central Park, 5-10.
- 18, NC Blues Concert, Center City Park, Greensboro. Free.
- 18-19, Artsposure, music and arts, downtown Raleigh. Free.
- 24-26, Tony Rice Memorial Day Music Fest, Camp Springs, BlueGrass Park, Elon, 3-11.
- 27, 37th Carl Sandburg Music Festival, Flat Rock, 11-3. Free.

ADVERTISE YOUR RACE HERE!

Fishing Rodeo Set For May 18

Orange County's annual Fishing Rodeo for kids 3-15 will be held Saturday, May 18, 9:30 to 11 a.m. at Blackwood Farm Park pond on NC 86, south of Hillsborough. Live bait only.

Prizes awarded for first fish caught, largest fish by weight, most creative fishing hat, etc. Pre-register (free) on Web Trac by 5/15 at orangecountync.gov/recreation.

Bring your own cane pole or borrow one (limited availability). Fishing begins at 9:30 a.m., hotdog lunch at 11. Bait worms provided. Rain date Sunday 5/19 2-4 p.m. Weather hotline 919-245-2669.

Earth Day Celebrations

The Durham Earth Day Festival takes place Sunday, April 21, 12-5 at Durham Central Park, organized by Durham Parks & Rec. with a parade, the department's 100th birthday party, singalong and music, food, environmental education activities.

Orange County marks Earth Evening Friday, April 26, 6-8 p.m., at River Park, Hillsborough, with environmental and hands-on activities.

Jordan Mildly Busy For Easter

Jordan Lake was mildly busy for Easter weekend, the first spring holiday of the season.

All three campgrounds were open and most sites occupied, park officials said. Day use areas and boat ramps were active. No major incidents were reported.

Easter is often considered a dress rehearsal for Memorial Weekend, usually the park's busiest. Last year July Fourth had the honor.

White Oak remained closed for eagle nesting but was said to be available for public use "in the very near future."

Entrance fees (\$5/car) are charged weekends only in April and May and daily from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Season passes are sold at the state park office/visitor center.

Parkers Creek loop 1 comfort station is closed for repairs.

OWASA Lakes

The spring season at OWASA lakes, University Lake and Cane Creek, got off to a slow start numbers wise, with Cane Creek having more visitors.

Hours are 6:30 to 6 Friday-Sunday at University Lake, Carrboro, and Cane Creek, west of Carrboro off NC 54, Saturday-Sunday. Lakes offer boating, fishing, picnicking, kayak, canoe, flat bottom boat rentals. N.C. fishing license required.

If you want to go early in the morning, before 10, register at the OWASA website early in the week, otherwise walk ups are welcome. Fees are charged. Check the website for details. Lakes are open holidays.

Hunting Report

Elephant Jokes Return

Chris Maroldy

This month, the elephant joke made a comeback.

That exemplar of 1960s humor was the second thing I thought of when I heard the news that Botswana's president suggested he might send 20,000 elephants to Germany to see how the Europeans liked living with the beasts. This after Germany's Environment Ministry threw its support behind a proposed ban on the importation of hunting trophies from protected species.

Botswana is home to roughly 130,000 elephants, nearly a third of the world's population, and Germany is one of the largest importers of hunting trophies in the European Union, allowing 26 elephant trophies into the country last year, according to the German government. While elephant populations worldwide and in northern Africa seem to be having a hard time due to poaching and habitat loss, they're doing pretty well in southern Africa, where Botswana is located, to the point that conflict with people and serious environmental damage is more and more common.

So the *first* thing I thought of when I heard about President Mokgweetsi Masisi's comments was, "Good for him."

The second thing was the whole lot of fun I had with elephant jokes when I was a kid. How about bringing the old classics into the 21st century? Let me try this twist on you: "Why do German elephants paint their toenails red and green?" —"So they can hide in Christmas trees..."

Boo, hiss? —Drop off your comments at the Complaint Boxes located wherever you used to pick up your paper copy of Community Sports News.

Some people "get" elephant jokes and some people don't. Some people get hunting, and some don't. Some people get trophy hunting, and some don't. And some people get elephant hunting, and some people don't.

The fact is that poachers, poverty and habitat loss are a much bigger triple threat to elephants than a few dozen highly regulated hunters roaming the continent each year. And to put things in perspective, sport hunting (as opposed to market hunting) has never caused a population problem for any North American species. In fact, declines in or bans on hunting (for whatever reason) have done more harm than good to the game, the environment, and in some cases the people on this continent. The same thing could translate to Africa.

Get the poachers, poverty and habitat under control, and things would look up for the elephants and for Africa. This is what most conservationists say, and what pro-hunting interests say. All reports indicate that in Africa, there's an overwhelming sense that the revenue generated by limited elephant hunting is hugely important to the economy and the local people, more so than photo safaris and other eco-tourism. The comparison may or may not be provable, but the power of the money (and the food and by-products) is undeniable, if you listen to Africans.

There is also rising property and crop damage and increasing danger to humans as Botswana's elephant population has soared after the nation implemented strict anti-poaching measures in recent years, including "shoot-to-kill" orders which have since been rescinded. The country has exported elephants to other African nations, and sees regulated hunting as a no-risk, high-reward tool for selective "cropping" of the resource in a delicate environment which has been plagued by drought.

"It is very easy to sit in Berlin and have an opinion about our affairs in Botswana," Masisi told the German paper Bild. "We are paying the price for preserving these animals for the world." Germans should "live with the animals the way you try to tell us to," he said. And then he added: "This is no joke."

+++

Okay, a few more: Why is sending elephants to Germany a bad idea? —Because they might work for peanuts, but they won't work for sour Krauts.... —Because at the pool, they won't wear the Speedos. They prefer trunks... —Footprints in the butter... —You'll have to take the giraffes out first... —No soap, radio.

I have a *ton* of them! But remember: Look for those Complaint Boxes if you need them....

sites are also closed until health and safety issues are resolved. No new reservations will be taken.

OPEN BURNING

The open burning of trash, metal, plastic and all other man-made materials not only harms the environment and poses a public health risk, but it's against state law.

The N.C. Department of Environmental Quality's Division of Air Quality reminds Tar Heels: If it doesn't grow, don't burn it. Open burning is only allowed in limited circumstances and only for vegetative materials like leaves, limbs and yard debris.

BENCH INSTALLED

The installation of the Jim (Huegerich) Memorial Whisper Bench on the Bolin Creek Trail near where it crosses Umstead Drive in Chapel Hill was celebrated in early April by the town and community. It's easy to spot—a bright green bench with a red poppy at both ends. He spent 37 years with the Police Department Crisis Unit and helped develop the Ombuds Office and lived nearby.

CANE POLE FISHING

West Point on the Eno City Park, Durham, has cane pole fishing April 21/27/28 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Stop by and drop a line. All ages, no cost.

WILDFLOWER HIKES

The last two spring wildflower hikes of the season organized by Eno River Association are Sundays, May 5, 2-4 at Panther Branch Natural Area and May 12 at Occaneechee Mountain SNA, Hillsborough. Free. RSVP at eventbrite.com.

FLY FISHING FILMS

The International Fly Fishing Film Festival (IF4) visits Raleigh (Marbles IMAX) April 29 at 7 p.m. under the auspices of Triangle Fly Fishers. Cost is \$20 at flyfilmfest.com/schedule. They're also in Boone April 20 at Appalachian Theatre of the Highlands.

LAKE DROWNING

A 30-year-old man from Smithfield swimming near Holly Point boat ramp at Falls Lake drowned April 1, Wake County authorities reported.

Outdoor Notes

BEAR ISLAND

Hammocks Beach State Park's Bear Island, Swansboro, will close campsites and ferry service through at least the summer for a major construction project to make water and septic system repairs, the N.C. Division of Parks and Recreation announced. There is currently no potable water or working restrooms at Bear Island. The ferry service, which normally begins operating in April, will not open until construction is complete. Camp-

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BOAT DEMOS - Kayak and Canoe

Thursday, April 25, May 23, June 20, 4-7 p.m.
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Register: gopc401@greatoutdoorprovision.com
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Outdoor Summer Music Concerts

Free outdoor concerts are returning in the Chapel Hill area for the new season.

Fridays on the Front Porch start April 19, 5 to 8 at the Carolina Inn, Chapel Hill, and run weekly through October. Beverages are sold and food trucks on site. Shows are free with different bands each week.

Freight Train Blues Concert Series starts May 3 and runs Fridays through June 21, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. outdoors at Carrboro Town Commons, saluting Carrboro native and blues legend Elizabeth Cotten. Free. Food and beer are available. Music is coordinated by Music Maker Foundation of Hillsborough.

Bynum Front Porch Music Series Fridays begins May 3 from 7 to 9 p.m. through August at the historic Bynum General Store on Bynum Road off US 15-501 South, Pittsboro. Bands play outdoors, but move inside in case of bad weather. Tip the musicians. Food on site. Bluegrass Circle Jam held second and fourth Saturdays 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Acoustic only.

SOS (Save Our Store) benefit concert April 27, 3-9 p.m. at Bynum with seven bands.

The Roost at Fearington often has live music outside Friday 5-7. Free. Tip the musicians.

Sundays at Sundown concerts at 7 p.m. on Southern Village Green, Chapel Hill, are underway. Free. Tip the musicians.

New Spring Leagues

Chapel Hill has two new spring leagues—co-rec volleyball (7 teams) and co-rec bocce (10 teams).

It's the first adult VB league in southern Orange in years and the first ever bocce. VB plays Wednesday night at the Chapel Hill Community Center and bocce Tuesday evenings on the outside courts beside the center.

Community News

UNC's Naval Armory was included on the National Register of Historic Places, which should save it from demolition. The register is the official list of buildings deemed worthy of preservation because of their historical significance. The Naval Armory on South Columbia St. joins Old East, Playmakers Theater and the Carolina Inn as campus buildings in the register. UNC had plans to tear down the armory to make way for a new science building.

May 14 is the runoff or second election for Republican Lt. Gov, NC Auditor and Orange County School Board (1 seat). Polls open 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Early voting ends May 11, 8-3, only at Orange Works, Hillsborough.

Orange County voters will act on a \$300M school bond measure for school repairs Nov. 5. Spending is divided: 60.1 percent for Chapel Hill schools, 39.9 for Orange County.

Kaden Honeycutt was the winner of the Orange Krush 200 lap late model race at Orange County Speedway, Rougemont. Deac McCaskill was second and Bobby McCarty third. The race raised \$115,000 for the Wade Burton Wildlife Fund.

Chapel Hill Police charged a 21-year-old man with assaults last month on the greenway in Meadowmont. The CHPD stepped up patrols after two women reported that a man had inappropriately touched them, then learned about a third case.

A Chili Cookoff for Orange County Living Wage spring fundraiser with pro and amateur cooks will be held Sunday, April 28, 12-3 at Carrboro Town Commons. Food, music, bake sale, beer available. Tickets are \$10-\$50 at zeffy.com-en-us/ticketing.

Raleigh Firebirds, a pro basketball men's team in The Basketball League (52 teams) play home games April 26 (Jacksonville 95ers) at 7 and the next day (Coastal Georgia) at 4 p.m. at World of God Christian Academy, Raleigh. Tickets are \$20 at the door.

Carolina Hurricanes have first round home NHL Stanley Cup playoff games April 21 and 23 at PNC Arena, Raleigh. Details TBA.

Carrboro ARPA Projects

Carrboro has about \$496,650 in ARPA recreation projects pending.

They are Baldwin Park playground replacement; Anderson Park basketball court resurfacing; MLK Pump Track repairs; new downtown murals.

Charles Harrington, recreation administrator, said, "At this time, none of the projects have been completed but we are anticipating completion hopefully by the end of the calendar year."

RECYCLE! RECYCLE!

Another View, Mine John Nieman

Society, our culture, our day-to-day existence is more adversarial than it has been in my entire life. And I came of age in the 60s. I was in the high school class of 1970. Virtually every topic that arises these days has at least two wildly divergent viewpoints. And those views are expressed in the most virulent manner.

As I have opined in this space many times, one of the many reasons I cling to sport is to get away from this malaise. But sometimes, it creeps into even this beloved area.

Such is the case with the US Women's National Soccer Team.

Now I recognize that my personal world-view is somewhat left of the average. Some might say way left. But as a stoic progressive, I pride myself on respecting opposing viewpoints and the right of those with opposing viewpoints to express them freely. And I particularly try to be understanding of the expressions of young people. And by young people, at my age, I'm referring to those under the age of 35.

But I cannot wrap my head around the thinking that went into the social media postings of the young, extremely talented, 20-year-old midfielder Korbin Albert.

Certainly the USWNT has a history of support for progressive, liberal views, but over the years there have been members of the team who have differed from that position. And they did so while still being supportive of the team. Ms. Albert's views on homosexuality are ones that she is entitled to. And while it may not be wise for her to express them as she did when she was a young, prospective member of the team, that is her decision. But to support and post a report that proposes that Megan Rapinoe's injury at the end of her storied career was an act of God evidences both an air of privilege and stupidity that calls into question her ability to progress and perform at what is arguably our nation's most successful national team in any sport.

Has American society really become so fractured that a young soccer player—one who presumably seeks to make a career out of playing soccer—would mock a legend of the sport, no matter what that legend's political views. In what bubble does Korbin Albert live?

Perhaps the thing I miss most about my youth is the camaraderie of the team. I have been fortunate enough to have played on many teams, had many teammates. We did not agree on everything. Some, I don't think we agreed on anything except the joy of the team. But it never would have

occurred to me or anyone else on the team to publicly or even privately call out a team member because of their differing beliefs.

One of the most enjoyable bubbles I lived in was the team bubble. And it is important to the success of the team that that respect be sacrosanct.

This young athlete celebrated the injury and disappointment of a senior, legendary member of a team she desperately wants to join. That sort of narcissistic behavior—that belief that your own viewpoint is paramount—can be poison to a team.

The fact that she was still called up to the national team in the last window is truly a testament to her ability. I remain unconvinced that it is worth it. She is playing professionally in Paris. Perhaps that should be enough for her.

Because when you hear athletes talk about what it is they miss most after their playing days are over, they invariably talk about the times in the locker room and at the bar or pub with teammates. The close camaraderie that can only be experienced through sport.

I know that I have little memory of my sporting achievements on the field—of course, that may be because I just wasn't very good—but I have great memories of 15-hour van rides to out-of-state camps, throwing balls and towels at each other in a locker room, singing Head Beers to the tune of Amazing Grace at He's Not Here, lying on the beach with the team waiting on our next match in Charleston. I had two weddings. All of the groomsmen (and a couple of the bridesmaids) at both weddings were teammates, not co-workers, not neighbors, not classmates.

I am and have been enjoying a rich and wonderful life, but it would have been so much less if not for those experiences courtesy of sport.

Had NC State gone to the final of the Final Four, this would probably have been a much different essay. The last time they won, I tossed the current Orange-Chatham County District Attorney through the ceiling of our mobile home. Of course, it was somewhat easy since he was only 6 years old. Why is it so easy to root for NC State and impossible to do so for Duke? I'm pretty sure it's them.

Went to Martinsville. Great time, great race. Really enjoyed seeing the track posted a sign that said that obscene material would be confiscated and that that included Confederate flags. Hope springs eternal.

Media Sportswatch Joel Bulkley

The UNC spring football game April 20 at 3 p.m. will not be shown live on the ACC Network (ACCN). UNC coaches wanted fans to show up at Kenan Stadium to watch it live. The game may feature a QB battle on who succeeds Drake Maye. Admission is free.

The ACCN showed an all-access Carolina practice April 13 at 10 a.m. On April 20, ACCN will show spring games for Wake Forest, Florida State, Duke from 2 to 6, with Virginia, Syracuse games on ACCN+.

The NCAA tournaments were exciting and full of surprises, disappointments. Upsets are fun except when it's your team getting knocked off. It's easy to see why so many fans fill out brackets. ESPN said at one point they were getting nearly 20,000+ brackets a minute before the games began and the total was in the millions.

Our lack of a daily newspaper is never more glaring than during tourney times. The N&O coverage arrives days late. The national dailies often outshine the locals with features and related stories. Missed Greg Gumbel as a CBS game host. He was out dealing with family health issues. Adam Zucker and others filled in.

Not much of a Clark Kellogg fan, but I respect how hard he works. During the men's tourney he did pregame TV shows for TBS/CBS, did games on radio as an analyst for Westwood One and then post game TV commentary.

Dick Vitale has a new book "Until My Last Breath: Fighting Cancer With My Young Heroes" with USA Today basketball writer Scott Gleeson. Vitale expects to return to broadcasting for the 24-25 college season after battling cancer issues.

The N&O is doing a commemorative coffee table book from Pediment Press on N.C. State's NCAA run, "Why Not Us?" Cost is \$31.95 and it ships in late May.

UNC's rotating cast of radio color analysts for basketball games, filling in for the late Eric Montross, worked out well. I liked Tyler Hansbrough the best because he was the most candid. Joel Berry II, Pete Chilcutt, Tyler Zeller, Marcus Ginyard also filled in and did OK. Chilcutt and Zeller were my second and third favorites.

The NCAA broadcasts were dominated by gambling ads, partnerships and similar promos. For the first time sports gambling in N.C. was legal and available. Hopefully the ad numbers will decline or stabilize in the future.

Am disappointed I won't be able to bet on the May 4 Kentucky Derby.

Betting on horse races is permitted by the legislation allowing mobile gambling, but no operators have applied for a costly state license (\$1M for five years) nor has the state lottery commission established rules for horse racing at this point, WRAL reported.

State lawmakers may consider changes during the legislative session that begins shortly.

Gannett and McClatchy, two large newspaper chains, are dropping the Associated Press news service to save money. AP is a national/international cooperative that sends local news, sports, weather stories, pictures to a state or regional office that distributes them.

McClatchy publishes papers in Raleigh and Durham, Gannett publishes USA Today and others. Years ago the saying was UPI had it first but AP had it right.

Field Level Media based, in Kirkland, WA, is a sports content provider that now does a lot of sports stories for the N&O. They were established in 2004 and have 200+ employees.

Goodbye Audubon

New Hope Bird Alliance (Together For Nature) is the proposed new name for the New Hope Audubon Society as they distance themselves from Audubon, reportedly a slave owner and white supremacist. Supporters said the change will help us "better focus on their mission of promoting the conservation of other birds, other wildlife and their ecosystems." At the same time they want to remove the Audubon part that many find offensive.

Local NHAS members will vote on the proposed change at the annual meeting May 2 in Chapel Hill. Similar actions are taking place around the country.



BOYS IN THE BOAT, Continued from page 3

be invited to the Olympics. A bigwig at the university tells Coach “I hope you know what you’re doing.”

Well before going to New York, Joe sees his father on the street, selling wood. Dad asks him to go to work for him at a dollar a day and sneers at Joe when Joe refuses.

Of course the JVs win at Poughkeepsie. A radio announcer enthuses that they are “underdogs representing the underdog nation.” The other competitors are bluebloods who probably rowed before they walked and now attend Ivy League schools, and Navy, who we might hope to have done better in competition for a nautical skill.

Washington wins, but the Olympic Committee tells Coach that new rules require the team to come up with \$5,000 extra for transportation and housing. The team and the school go on a massive hunt for the money. Even Joe’s father contributes to the campaign. Touchingly, the Sanford coach shows up minutes before the money deadline and makes up the difference between \$5,000 and what has been raised.

It’s off to Hamburg then, with everyone turned out in spiffy Olympic blazers, white slacks, and boaters. The team meets Jesse Owens briefly and someone asks him if he’s

running to beat Hitler. Owens replies that he’s doing it for the folks back home.

A moment of drama, as Donnie, one of the rowers, becomes sick and dehydrated and must stay in bed. Will it be Win One for the Gipper time? No, it won’t. Donnie, who for some reason doesn’t talk but is a great pianist, recovers enough to be back on the boat in time. Coach tells the team to “Row for your country; row for each other,” as they have really molded themselves into a team. Their coxswain has helped immeasurably in the team building. All we know about him is that Coach has given him “one last chance” after some unmentioned snafu with the senior team.

The Boys in the Boat win in Hamburg an actual photo finish with the German boat, tension building as the film of the finish is developed and reviewed. A montage during the race and the wait shows groups of folks at home listening intently to their radios. We see Joyce and Coach’s wife Hazel and even Joe’s dad. Film review ends in short order, The US wins, Hitler stalks out of his seat, all is well.

The women in this movie have little to do but stand by their men and offer support and sympathy as required. The Coach and Joe share thoughts with Hazel and Joyce that demonstrate the feelings they do not share with the other men, advancing the plot somewhat by showing trepidation and self-doubt.

It would have been nice to know more about the characters’ back stories. What did the cox do to get booted from the senior team? Why doesn’t Donny talk? Why does Joe have a perfect, beautiful haircut during the Depression while he lives in an old car without money for lunch? Who are the other rowers and what are their stories? But all of that would have made the movie an hour or so longer and shifted the focus from the main plot.

In sum, this is a beautiful movie. The cinematography is wonderful, with the long aerial shots of the racing boats in sunlit water, making them look like a covey of waterbirds in a shifting pattern. It is also a soothing movie. The plot is basically foretold, there is little suspense, and everything turns out well. A classic sports movie, and a throwback to an earlier, more hopeful time in the country’s history.

You may worry about where these Olympians will be in six years’ time as World War II begins for the US, but for the time of the movie, hope is the name of the game, and hope is rewarded.

Triangle Beer Fests

April 20, Fields of Funk Beer Festival, 20+ beers, ciders, music, food trucks, Pluck Farm, NC 54, Mebane, 2-8.

April 26-27, Brewgaloo, 110 craft brewers, Raleigh City Plaza, downtown Raleigh, Fri 6-10, Sat 12-8.

TRAVELOG, Continued from page 1

The main passenger service to Portsmouth doesn’t typically get underway until tourist season, but I’ve learned not to expect the locals to cater to visitors during the rest of the year. Aside from Christmas, the place can get pretty slow and quiet during the winter, so why bother? The scant money probably doesn’t justify the effort.

Having no financial stake in the matter, I love Ocracoke when it’s slow and quiet. And after getting home from Lake Mattamuskeet in early January, I kept thinking about the migratory birds there and resolved to return to Hyde County before the end of the month to see them again before they headed back north. This time, however, I would keep heading east, catch the Swan Quarter ferry out to Ocracoke and spend a couple of days there. I would bring my camping gear along and hang around Silver Lake Harbor to see if I could hustle up a ride to Portsmouth—preferably with someone I could trust to pick me up and bring me back the next day.

Of course, it didn’t work out that way. On the eve of my trip in late January, the weather looked a bit sketchy, but I purchased my ticket for the vehicle ferry anyway and headed out before dawn. When I got to the lake, I cursed myself for not having left earlier, realizing I wouldn’t have much time to enjoy the scenery before my 10am ferry departure. I needn’t have worried though, because when I rolled up to the ferry ticket booth and announced myself, the people inside looked at me like I had a screw loose.

As I quickly learned, a bank of dense fog had rolled into the Pamlico Sound overnight, and ferry service from Swan Quarter was canceled indefinitely. In fact, they said my ticket was actually for the Cedar Island-Ocracoke ferry, a meandering three-hour drive from Swan Quarter! I’m still puzzling over that—as best I can tell, unless I made a monumentally stupid error (which is possible), the ferry website must have defaulted me to Cedar Island the night before and I didn’t notice, kind of like when you try to order takeout from a closed restaurant and it bumps your pickup to the next day. At any rate, I wasn’t interested in making a 160-mile loop to get to a place 40 miles across the Pamlico Sound, so I returned to Lake Mattamuskeet to lick my wounds and ponder my next move.

After spending some time checking out the tundra swans, I decided to drive the long way around to Hatteras and hope that the ferry there would be running. It certainly made better sense than Cedar Island, which would take nearly six hours including the ferry, and that might also be out of service. This way, if luck was with me, I would drive about 2.5 hours and then be on the Hatteras ferry for another hour, getting me to Ocracoke by mid-afternoon, if at all. I checked the weather again and realized Portsmouth was off the table for that night, at least; nobody would be willing to cross the inlet due to high winds, fog and possible rain, and overnight temperatures would be too low for camping anyway. I grudgingly checked Airbnb, found a small sailboat docked at Silver Lake Harbor for rent (which sounded like it might be cool) and set off.

The detour turned out to be a blessing in disguise: traveling north across the Albemarle-Pamlico Peninsula on US 264, I passed through the Dare Game Land and the Alligator River Wildlife Refuge, along beautifully desolate stretches of road that made me forget all about the canceled ferry.

Turning onto 64 East, I crossed Roanoke Island out to Whalebone Junction and then started the long run south on NC 12, finally arriving at the Hatteras Ferry, which much to my relief was still in operation. Soon I was across the inlet and back on the road.

Continuing south on NC 12 along the 16-mile length of Ocracoke, I arrived at Silver Lake Harbor and “checked in” to my accommodations: the boat could not be locked and was underwhelming in most respects (also in

need of a good airing out thanks to a chemical toilet that I mostly shunned in favor of a nearby port-a-john), but I’d be lying if I said I didn’t enjoy it or would rather have stayed at the Pony Island Inn, though Adam, my “superhost,” was a little bold to charge \$100 per night. While I couldn’t bring myself to write a review, the boat suited me fine. It rocked and bumped against the dock in the blustery weather, but I slept soundly in the bow compartment and enjoyed sipping beverages in the open cockpit while looking out over the foggy harbor. I watched the ferries come and go once their service had resumed, and listened to the mournful sound of their foghorns.

The boat even came with a beat-up beach bike, which I rode out to the south end of the island late one drizzly night to enjoy the crashing of the wind-whipped surf. I ended up staying on Ocracoke for a total of four days, not seeing many people and talking to fewer, except during trips to the store or meals at one of the few open restaurants, which was nice.



PHOTO BY ROBBIE BREITWEISER

Over dinner one evening I got into conversation with a local boat owner who offered to run me over to Portsmouth the next morning for a reasonable fee, but I decided to hold off until I could make a proper camping trip of it.

Instead, I roamed the island and walked the trails at Springer’s Point, a beautiful, forested area that was supposedly one of Blackbeard’s favorite party destinations. Nearby is Teach’s Hole, a spot offshore where Royal Navy officer Robert Maynard slew the recalcitrant pirate and hung his severed head from the bowsprit of his sloop like a grisly hood ornament.

Definitely a bad way to go, but I give Blackbeard credit for allegedly knocking back a drink and roaring “Damnation seize my soul if I give you any quarters, or take any from you!” at Maynard before the battle was joined. If you’re gonna sustain five musketball wounds and twenty sword lacerations, you might as well say something memorable beforehand.

When my stay on Ocracoke was over, I caught the ferry to Cedar Island and drove home from there, across the Cedar Island Wildlife Refuge and through “down east” Carteret County, which is an even nicer route than I had taken north from Swan Quarter.

I’d had a great time but was a little disappointed at failing once again to make it out to Portsmouth Island. It sounds like a remarkable place, with its ghost village of 21 state-maintained buildings, established in 1753 and finally abandoned in 1971. In addition to its once-thriving fishing industry, Portsmouth originally functioned as a colonial “lightering port,” where cargo from ocean-going vessels was transferred onto shallow-draft boats capable of navigating the sounds and coastal rivers.

One look at a map also will tell you that it’s among the remotest spots in North Carolina for off-grid camping, and I have no doubt that the stars on Portsmouth Island are spectacular on a clear night. More than that I cannot say without the benefit of experience, but damnation seize my soul if I don’t make it there before summer arrives.

Chapel Hill/Durham Spring Races

April

20, Tar Heel Ten Miler/4m, DoubleDown, Chapel Hill.

26, Mebane Dogwood Festival 5K.

26, Socks and Undie 5K Rundie, Durham.

27, Angels Among Us 5K, Durham.

27, Tobacco Road Relay, 75m, Chapel Hill to Durham to Raleigh.

28, Philosopher’s Way 10m/7K trail, Chapel Hill.

May

4, Komen/Triangle Race for the Cure 5K, RTP.

4, Zen Squirrel Trail, 10/5/2m, Pittsboro.

4, Jogging for Josh 5K, Elon.

4, Seaforth HS Hawks Flight Color Run 5K, Pittsboro.

4, Learning Outside 5K trail, Mebane.

4, Solar Strides 5K, Chapel Hill.

5, Racing for Rescues 5K, Durham.

11, The Fast and Furriest 5K for Animals, Hillsborough.

11, Rescheduled, Exceptional Strides For Exceptional Students 5K trail, Pittsboro.

11, GCA Mom’s Day 5K, Haw River.

18, Cedarrock Trail HM/10K/5K, Burlington.

18, Bee Amazing (Girls on the Run) 5K, RTP.

18, Lookin for a Cure 5K, Durham.

June

1, Running of the Bulls 8K, Durham.

5, Big Run 5K, Hillsborough.

7-8, Rise N Shine Running Festival, 20K relay/5K, Pittsboro.

Tournament bid. Then, they rode the hot hand of Chase Hunter all the way into the Elite Eight with wins over Baylor and Arizona. While their run ended with a loss to the high-scoring Crimson Tide, the end result was a signal that Brad Brownell has taken this program to the next level. He'll miss Hunter and All-ACC center P.J. Hall next year, but he's proven that his system works, and the Clemson program could be a fixture in the ACC elite for a long time.

Of course, the biggest success story is the NC State Wolfpack. Heading into the ACC tournament, this team looked dead in the water, and head coach Kevin Keatts was likely headed for the unemployment line. But this makeshift group of transfers miraculously gelled at the perfect time and did the unfathomable—winning five games in five days to capture the ACC title and a berth in the NCAA Tournament.

Then, they continued their hot streak all the way to the Final Four, becoming only the sixth 11-seed in tournament history to make it that far. But the shocking thing was the fact that Keatts carefully constructed this roster from the transfer portal—rather than the traditional means of recruiting high school seniors—and it worked better than anyone could have dreamed.

And no, regardless of what some talking heads say, it wasn't luck that got them that far—it was being healthy and everyone finally buying into the roles that were assigned to them (including big tasty D.J. Burns) and using suffocating defense to run down opposing shooters and hunt rebounds for quick outlets and fastbreak buckets. It was a miraculous run reminiscent of Jimmy V's 1983 championship, and something that made the Wolfpack relevant again in the ACC.

The Bad

It's somewhat of an understatement that the ACC as a whole had a down year. Sched-

PARKS, Continued from page 1

23-24. They've completed projects worth \$143,000 and are tackling others, many of which are neither widely known nor mentioned publicly at public rec advisory board meetings.

This year they've completed teen center renovations, \$30,000; miscellaneous small park improvements, \$32,000; Nate Davis Sr. Gym at Hargraves upgrades/renovations, \$55,000; design services for park projects, \$26,000.

Still to be completed: athletic turf improvements at Southern Community Park, \$100,000; installation of new basketball goal systems and dividers at Community Center and Nate Davis Gym at Hargraves, estimated cost \$250,000; AD Clark Pool upgrades at Hargraves, estimated cost \$50,000; Master Plan for Recreation/Parks/Greenways, \$300,000.

A contract hasn't been signed for the MP but "the bidding process is still active," the town said, and the funding will come from PFP. Work will start this summer.

Jonathan Ray, senior recreation supervisor, explained the basketball project, "Both the Community Center and the Nate Davis Sr. Gymnasium will be getting all new goals (12 total) and divider curtains (2 total). We're very excited about the project as both sets of goals have given us numerous issues over the last several years and are beyond their original lifespan (the CC goals are original to the building).

"Work will include new electrical, removal of all the old goals and supports and installation of the new goals and dividers. I don't have the exact total cost as the goal installation is separate from the electrical work and we may have added a few items since the last quotes I saw, but 250K-300K is a good ballpark figure. Work will be done in late May and early June and completed prior to summer camp."

Game Records		Overall				Home				Away				Neutral			
Record		Overall				Home				Away				Neutral			
ALL GAMES		29-8				14-1				8-2				7-5			
CONFERENCE		17-3				9-1				8-2				0-0			
NON-CONFERENCE		12-5				5-0				0-0				7-5			

Score by Periods		1st				2nd				OT				TOT			
Team		1st				2nd				OT				TOT			
North Carolina		1462				1557				13				3032			
Opponents		1276				1317				15				2608			

Team Box Score		Total				3-Point			F-Throw		Rebounds				PF DQ A TO BLK STL PTS AVG							
No.	Player	GP-GS	MIN	AVG	FG-FGA	FG%	3FG-3FGA	3FG%	FT-FTA	FT%	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG	PF	DQ	A	TO	BLK	STL	PTS	AVG
4	DAVIS, RJ	37-37	1287:20	34.8	260-607	.428	113-284	.398	151-173	.873	18	116	134	3.6	65	0	129	55	8	45	784	21.2
5	BACOT, Armando	37-37	1122:58	30.4	194-359	.540	4-10	.400	146-187	.781	117	263	380	10.3	100	2	56	60	56	22	538	14.5
55	INGRAM, Harrison	37-36	1212:34	32.8	163-379	.430	65-169	.385	60-98	.612	97	230	327	8.8	71	1	80	51	15	51	451	12.2
3	RYAN, Cormac	36-34	1091:02	30.3	128-335	.382	75-212	.354	83-95	.874	20	82	102	2.8	87	2	44	42	15	25	414	11.5
2	CADEAU, Elliot	37-31	881:28	23.8	101-242	.417	10-53	.189	59-91	.648	21	60	81	2.2	84	3	150	67	4	29	271	7.3
7	TRIMBLE, Seth	35-1	599:25	17.1	62-132	.470	13-31	.419	44-66	.667	18	56	74	2.1	42	0	32	22	7	13	181	5.2
24	WITHERS, Jae'Lyn	37-3	458:53	12.4	53-99	.535	4-20	.200	46-59	.780	37	96	133	3.6	53	1	21	25	18	16	156	4.2
13	WASHINGTON, Jalen	37-0	308:08	8.3	54-77	.701	8-15	.533	27-42	.643	33	62	95	2.6	51	1	7	14	21	3	143	3.9
8	WOJCIK, Paxson	32-3	267:17	8.4	16-47	.340	7-30	.233	12-17	.706	12	20	32	1.0	26	0	13	10	0	3	51	1.6
22	LANDRY, Rob	7-1	13:30	1.9	3-5	.600	2-3	.667	0-0	.000	1	3	4	0.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	1.1
32	OKONKWO, James	15-0	43:19	2.9	5-9	.556	0-0	.000	5-5	1.000	7	8	15	1.0	7	0	0	3	4	0	15	1.0
1	HIGH, Zayden	23-0	102:52	4.5	6-19	.316	0-8	.000	6-9	.667	9	17	26	1.1	23	0	3	9	3	5	18	0.8
34	FARRIS, Duwe	8-1	14:07	1.8	1-4	.250	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	1	1	2	0.3	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0.3
14	LEBO, Creighton	9-1	22:08	2.5	0-9	.000	0-4	.000	0-0	.000	0	3	3	0.3	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0.0
Team											61	51	112					15				
Total		37	7425		1046-2323	.450	301-839	.359	639-842	.759	452	1068	1520	41.1	611	10	536	373	151	214	3032	81.9
Opponents		37	7425		935-2281	.410	262-817	.321	476-644	.739	331	919	1250	33.8	690	15	374	392	141	203	2608	70.5

ule strength, BPI and other metrics were down across the board, and the conference could only secure five bids to the NCAA Tournament (should've been four, but someone felt sorry for Virginia).

However, no team epitomized the failings of the conference like the Louisville Cardinals. In only two years, Kenny Payne turned the program into the biggest dumpster fire anyone has seen this century, with a 12-52 record (5-35 in conference). Despite giving Payne the boot early on and making the quick hire of Pat Kelsey, nearly the entire team jumped ship into the transfer portal, making Kelsey's job even more difficult.

Then again, that's the magic of the portal—it gives teams a chance to burn the roster to the ground and build it up rather quickly. Now, no one should expect NC State-like results, but Kelsey should be able to put a decent program on the floor in a couple of years. And it will certainly be immensely better than what Payne produced.

While we can discuss the disappointment of Jim Laranaga's Miami Hurricanes after such lofty preseason expectations, the more disastrous—and perhaps more puzzling—post-mortem is that of the Virginia Tech program, which, in three days, saw a mass exodus of nearly the entire roster, including those who would've been key returnees in Sean Pedulla, MJ Collins, Lynn Kidd and Tyler Nickel. Mike Young is still trying to figure things out, and while he did get Mylyjael Poteat to change his mind and stay with the Hokies, his grip on the program seems tenuous at best.

Tech had a decent year and a reasonable appearance in the NIT, and things actually looked rather good for next season, but there's something bad brewing below the surface in Blacksburg, and it's not just the lack of NIL funding. The transfer train has slowed somewhat, but it looks like the Hokies' overhaul will be the least of their problems heading into next season.

The Meh

This is the part where we dissect what went wrong with the UNC Tar Heels after earning top seeds in both the ACC Tournament and NCAA Tournament and then failing to claim titles in either. However, there isn't much to dissect. Hubert Davis did his best to plug holes with incoming transfers and provide R.J. Davis and Armando Bacot with adequate support, but the development of the younger players in roles for which they weren't ready—that might've been the only shortcoming. Then again, that's just part of the process for building a program.

The same can be said for the Duke Blue Devils, who had a successful season by most standards, but failure to get past a hot, in-con-

ference rival twice in the postseason puts them in the "meh" bracket. Jon Scheyer hasn't had his players long enough to truly have an impact on the court and put his own stamp on the program. For all the blue-chip talent, the player development just isn't there—at least not yet. And maybe that's the lesson for the Tobacco Road rivals—patience.

Because while Scheyer and Davis may eventually become successful coaches in their own right, they aren't Krzyzewski and Williams—and fans will just need to be more forgiving in the near term.

Tar Heel Bball Notes

RJ DAVIS won the Jerry West Award for the country's best shooting collegiate guard from the Naismith Hall of Fame. He was the first UNC player to win it and second from the ACC (Duke's JR Barrett, 2019).

This season, Davis was a consensus/unanimous first-team All-America, the ACC Player of the Year, a finalist for national player-of-the-year honors, four-time national player of the week and four-time ACC Player of the Week.

VINCE Carter and the late Walter Davis, former UNC standouts, were elected to the Naismith Memorial Hall of Fame's Class of 2024. They are the 13th and 14th who played or coached at Carolina. Only Kansas (20) has more.

Carter and Davis are the seventh and eighth Tar Heels primarily elected to the HOF as players, the most by any college team in the country. They are the ninth and tenth individuals who played college basketball for Dean Smith. No other coach has more former players elected to the Naismith Hall of Fame. They will be inducted in Springfield, Mass. in August.

KENNY Smith, TNT NBA analyst and former UNC star, will own an expansion team in Australia's National Basketball League and help recruit and develop players for the league that sent LaMelo Ball to the NBA. He was named head of the league's Next Stars player initiatives for North America.

UNC Stats

For the season:
 17-3 ACC, 25-6 Overall.
 Field goal percentage, 45 percent, ranked 157 in the country.
 3-Point percentage, 35.8 percent, 84.
 Points scored, 2530, 42.
 Rebounds, 38.1 per game, 6.

Stats from Yahoo Sports

ACC Basketball Tidbits

ACC is considering reducing the number of conference games from 20 to 18, the commissioner said in March. The change would allow schools more flexibility in scheduling non-conference games. The change to 20 was made in 2019-20 to increase inventory for the ACCN and will be reviewed in May at the annual meeting of ACC coaches.

The ACC (five teams) went 12-5 (.706 winning percentage) in the men's NCAA Tournament. The Big 12 was 7-7, .500; Big East 10-2, .833; Big Ten 10-6, .625; PAC12 6-4, .600; SEC 8-8, .500, Mountain West 4-6, .400; Atlantib 10 2-2, .500; American 0-2, .000; West Coast 2-2, .500.

Final end of the season rankings, after the NCAA Tournament from USA Today, had North Carolina 6, Duke 9, State 13, Clemson 15.

If you bet \$100 on N.C. State Wolfpack men's basketball team starting March 12 with Louisville in the ACC Tournament and rolled the money over on the next game through the Duke game March 31, you would have had \$666,097.50, the Wall Street Journal reported. The headline called "N.C. State a 23,512-to-1 Miracle" for winning nine straight. You're probably more likely to be struck by lightning, the headline added.

End Of Slavery Program April 27 At Bennett Place

The Civil War surrender at the Bennett farmhouse sealed the fate of slavery in the Carolinas, Georgia and Florida. To cap off the 159th anniversary of the surrender, Bennett Place State Historic Site in Durham will host a new event to commemorate slavery's end and honor the more than 331,000 enslaved men, women and children in North Carolina at the time of the Civil War. The program, "The Day Had Come: Emancipation at Bennett Place," will take place Saturday, April 27, 7-9 p.m.

The evening program follows a daytime event from 10 a.m. to 4 focused on the surrender of General Joseph Johnston to Major General Ulysses S. Grant at the Bennett farmhouse. Events include living historians interpreting military and civilian life during the Civil War. Cost is \$5 per adult, \$2 per child. The evening program is free.

RECYCLE! RECYCLE!